

**Page Denied**

22 MAY 1984

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of 2 May 1984 was received on 8 May 1984. This letter presented an appeal of your Freedom of Information Act request contained in your letter of 22 February 1983 for "all documents generated by the CIA in response to congressional inquiries on the U.S.S. Liberty attack." Your request and subsequent appeal have been assigned [Redacted] for reference purposes.

Arrangements will be made for consideration of your appeal by the CIA Information Review Committee.

In order to process appeals in the most equitable manner possible, we have adopted the policy of treating appeals on a first-received, first-out basis. To date, we have a backlog of approximately 130 appeals awaiting completion. Please be assured, however, that this appeal will be processed as quickly as possible and that you will be advised of the outcome as soon as a final determination has been made.

Sincerely,

  
Larry R. Strawderman  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

[Redacted]

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2 May 1984

SUBJECT: FOIA Appeal - U.S.S. Liberty Attack

Central Intelligence Agency  
ATTN: FOIA Coordinator  
Washington, DC 20505

Gentlemen:

References: FOIA Request dated 22 Feb 83  
CIA Letter dated 7 Mar 83  
Letter to CIA dated 28 Mar 83  
CIA Letter dated 18 Apr 83

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On 22 Feb 83, I made an FOIA request for all documents generated by the CIA in response to congressional inquiries on the U.S.S. Liberty attack. On 7 Mar 83, the CIA advised me that you needed my commitment to pay all fees before processing my request. On 28 Mar 83, I provided by commitment to pay up to \$50 in fees and on 18 Apr 83 the CIA acknowledged my commitment to pay \$50 and stated "we have accepted your request and will begin our search for responsive records in existence as of today."

My FOIA appeal requests the CIA provide the documents requested on 22 Feb 83 or reasons for exempting them from release within 10 working days after date of this appeal. If such documents or explanation aren't forthcoming then my appeal additionally requests an explanation on why the CIA misled me in your letter of 18 Apr 83 as quoted above.

Sincerely,

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22 JUL 1963

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Dear

This is in reply to your letter of 13 July 1963 in which you inquired as to the status of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request on correspondence generated by the CIA in response to Congressional inquiries on the USS Liberty attack.

Unfortunately, we are unable to give you a precise completion date for this request. This Agency has a sizable backlog, which is now approximately 2,800 Privacy Act and FOIA requests. It is our policy to handle all requests on a first-in, first-out basis. We have found this to be the most equitable policy if we are to be fair to all requesters.

Sincerely,

Larry R. Strawderman  
Larry R. Strawderman  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

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JUL 18 12 18 PM '83

13 July 1983

SUBJECT: FOIA Request U.S.S. Liberty Attack

Central Intelligence Agency  
ATTN: FOIA Appeal  
Washington, DC 20505

Gentlemen:

- References:
- a. FOIA request, 22 Feb 83.
  - b. CIA Letter, 7 Mar 83.
  - c. Letter 28 Mar 83.
  - d. CIA Letter, 18 Apr 83.

On 22 Feb 83, I made an FOIA request for all congressional correspondence on the U.S.S. Liberty attack and the CIA responses. On 7 Mar 83, the CIA advised that my commitment to pay fees was needed prior to processing my request. On 28 Mar 83, I advised the CIA of my intention to pay up to \$50 in fees.

I have every intention to cooperate with the CIA in waiting beyond the time limits of the FOIA as suggested in your letter of 18 Apr 83. However, it is now 90 days after my commitment to your agency to pay all reasonable direct cost fees.

Therefore, I am requesting to be advised when the CIA plans to respond to my FOIA request of 22 Feb 83.

If the CIA can't provide a date for responding to my FOIA request, then please provide me evidence of your good faith efforts in processing my FOIA request in order for me to decide if an appeal is appropriate.

Sincerely,



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6 APR 1983

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Dear 

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We have received your 28 March 1983 letter in which you provided your commitment to pay up to \$50 in fees in the servicing of your Freedom of Information Act request concerning correspondence generated by the CIA in response to Congressional inquiries on the U.S.S. Liberty attack.

Since we anticipate the fees to be low, we have accepted your request and will begin our search for responsive records in existence as of today.

As you may know, the heavy volume of FOIA requests received by the Agency has resulted in processing backlogs. Since we will be unable to respond within the 10 working days stipulated by the Act, it is your right to construe this as a denial, subject to appeal to the CIA Information Review Committee. It would seem more reasonable, however, for us to continue processing your request and to respond as soon as feasible. Any denials of records could be appealed at that time. Unless we hear from you otherwise, we will assume that this is agreeable to you, and we will proceed on this basis.

Sincerely,

/s/ Larry R. Strawderman

Larry R. Strawderman  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

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APR 4 3 50 PM '83

28 March 1983

SUBJECT: U.S.S. Liberty Attack

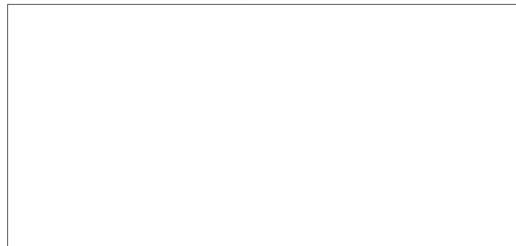
Central Intelligence Agency  
ATTN: FOIA Coordinator  
Washington, DC 20505

Gentlemen:

In my FOIA request of 22 February 1983, I requested all correspondence generated by the CIA in response to Congressional inquiries on the U.S.S. Liberty attack. The CIA response of 7 Mar 83 stated that prior to processing my request I must state my commitment to pay up to \$100 in search fees.

I am hereby making my commitment to pay the CIA up to \$50 in fees pursuant to my request. Please advise me if this \$50 commitment results in any limits on research or documents relative to my FOIA request.

Sincerely,



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2 Incl

1. FOIA ltr, 22 Feb 83
2. CIA ltr, 7 Mar 83

07 MAR 1983

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Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reply to your letter of 22 February 1983 in which you requested, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), copies of all correspondence generated by the CIA in response to congressional inquiries on the USS Liberty attack. It was received in this office on 1 March.

As you are aware, the FOIA authorizes federal agencies to collect fees for records services. We are enclosing, therefore, a fee schedule for your guidance. You will note that processing charges involve search fees, including computer time where indices are computerized, and copying costs for documents deemed releasable.

In accordance with section (e) of the schedule, fees are assessable even if no records are found, or, if found, they are deemed not releasable. This means you will be charged even if our search results are negative or if it is determined that no information is releasable under the exemptions of the FOIA.

Before we can begin any processing of your request, we must receive your commitment to pay all fees incurred and under the conditions stated above. The search fees for a single subject request are usually about \$100; a more precise fee estimate for your particular request can be obtained if you wish.

In this particular case, we would anticipate that search fees may not amount to \$100 due to the comparatively narrow scope of your request. In any event, we must have your fee commitment before we can initiate the processing of your request.

Please be advised, however, that documents determined to be the property of the Congress do not fall within the jurisdiction of the FOIA. You may wish to take this into consideration vis-a-vis your fee commitment. Please note again, as discussed above, our policy for assessing fees when documents are not releasable.



We shall await your response to these matters before undertaking any further action.

Sincerely,

/s/ Larry R. Strawderman

Larry R. Strawderman  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosure

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~~FEEL~~ 8 JAN 1 8 51 AM '83

22 February 1983 STAT

SUBJECT: FOIA Request, U.S.S. Liberty

IPD Registry

FOIA Coordinator  
CIA  
Washington, DC 20505

Dear CIA:

The following documents are requested under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Please provide a copy of all correspondence/documents generated by the CIA in response to congressional inquiries on the U.S.S. Liberty attack (8 June 1967). Please include both the congressional inquiry and the CIA response.

I understand the CIA normally releases six documents in response to FOIA requests on the U.S.S. Liberty attack. It is unnecessary to duplicate these six documents when they were inclosed with the CIA response to congressional inquiries. I have inclosed the CIA response of 5 August 1981 to my own FOIA request which references these six documents. In accordance with the FOIA, I look forward to your response within 10 working days.

Sincerely,

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1 Incl  
CIA Ltr 5 Aug 81

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

05 AUG 1981

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Dear [REDACTED]

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This is in response to your letter of 23 July 1981 in which you requested information from the files of this Agency under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Specifically, you asked for information concerning the Israeli attack on the USS Liberty in June 1967.

We have had many requests for information on your topic. As a result of these previous requests, we conducted a careful and thorough search of our files. The following six items have been released under provisions of the FOIA and are enclosed at Tab A.

Documents

1. Data Sheet, dated 1966, for modified "Victory" ships, Belmont and Liberty.
2. FBIS article, dated 14 June 1967.-
3. OO-B-321/33404.
4. OO-B-321/20396.
5. TDCSDB-313/02297/67.
6. CIA Intelligence Memorandum; The Israeli Attack on the USS Liberty, dated 13 June 1967.

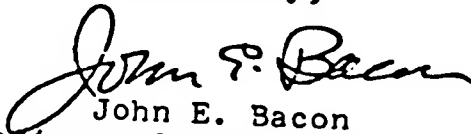
We would like to explain that items 3, 4, and 5 are those reports which the former Director of Central Intelligence, Stansfield Turner, characterized as raw intelligence data during an appearance on the "Good Morning, America" television program. On the other hand, item 6 is the release to which he referred as an evaluated over-all document, and pages 4 and 5 thereof reflect the grounds on which he based his further comment that it was this Agency's considered opinion that the Israeli Government had no knowledge at the time of the attack that the vessel was in fact the USS Liberty.

We hope that the above items satisfy your request. If they do not, and you still want Agency data on the possible role of Moshe Dayan in this attack, please inform us. We must advise you, however, that it is highly unlikely that any further information can be released, as the Director has a responsibility to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure.

In addition, we must advise you that there are search and copying fees involved in an FOIA request. For your information, enclosed at Tab B is a copy of our schedule of fees charged for this service. We must charge these fees, even though no additional data may be found, or if found, are not considered releasable. Incidentally, there were no search charges on the above items and, since the copying costs were under \$6, we have waived these charges.

We will consider your case closed unless we hear from you to the contrary. Thank you for your interest in the Agency.

Sincerely,



John E. Bacon  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

**Page Denied**

3 AUG 1983

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Dear [REDACTED]

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This to acknowledge receipt of your 11 and 12 July 1983  
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to this Agency.

We will be in touch with you concerning your requests in  
the near future. In the meantime, your patience and  
understanding will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Larry R. Strawderman  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

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IPD Registry

Jul 18 12 12 PM '83

12 July 1983

SUBJECT: FOIA Request U.S.S. Liberty Conference

Central Intelligence Agency  
FOIA Coordinator  
Washington, DC 20505

Gentlemen:

On 21 Jan 80, there was an interagency conference known as the "U.S.S. Liberty Conference". In accordance with the FOIA, please send me all CIA documents related to the CIA's participation in this conference.

Sincerely,

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